

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05
OES-07 OMB-01 SS-15 AID-05 DODE-00 HEW-04 AGRE-00
/082 R

DRAFTED BY DEA:DGALANOS:S/NM:LALEXANDER:BB
APPROVED BY S/NM:MFALCO
DEA:PBENSINGER (SUBS)
ARA:RARELLANO (SUBS)

-----079016 220424Z /42

P 220007Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 073050

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM ARELLANO, BENSINGER, FALCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: US MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF GOM
ERADICATION ACTIVITIES

REF: (A) MEXICO 04061, (B) MEXICO 04291, (C) DEA 07635

1. THE DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN THE TRANSFER OF REPORTING
RESPONSIBILITIES AS PROPOSED IN REFTEL B. THE RECRUITMENT
PROCESS HAS BEEN INITIATED TO FILL THE NAU DEPUTY POSITION;
HOWEVER NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN CONCERNING THE PROGRAM
PLANNING/REPORTING OFFICER PENDING MISSION VIEWS ON PARA
3E. MISSION MAY CONSIDER (A) ASSIGNMENT AS PROPOSED,
(B) ALTERNATIVELY, DETAIL THE DEA ANALYST TO NAU, OR (C)
ASSIGN A STATE OFFICER AS PROPOSED BY THE MISSION. WE

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HOPE TO CONCLUDE THE CONTRACT WITH FIELD SUPPORT ADVISER
WITHIN THREE WEEKS.

2. REGARDING REFTEL A, DEA PERCEIVES NO NEED TO SEND DEA
PERSONNEL STATIONED IN OTHER COUNTRIES TO MEXICO FOR
TRAINING AT THIS TIME. SHOULD THIS NEED ARISE LATER,
MISSION WILL BE ADVISED.

3. DEA WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS
IMPOSED BY THE GOM AND WILL LEND ITS FULL SUPPORT TO THE

MISSION AND THE GOM PROGRAM IN THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED
MANNER:

(A) DEA PERSONNEL WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP THE GROUND
TRUTH PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF MISSION'S EFFORT TO DEVELOP
OVERHEAD RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM.

(B) DEA HEADQUARTERS, THROUGH ITS DOMESTIC OFFICES, WILL
PROVIDE MISSION WITH MONTHLY STATISTICAL INFORMATION
RELATIVE TO HEROIN PRICE, PURITY, AVAILABILITY, AND
SOURCE.

(C) DEA DOMESTIC BORDER OFFICE OPERATIONS WILL BE
TASKED TO PROVIDE INCREASED RELATED MEXICAN OPIUM AND
HEROIN INFORMATION.

(D) DEA MEXICO WILL INCREASE IN-COUNTRY EFFORTS TO
IDENTIFY SOURCES WHO CAN PROVIDE INDEPENDENT INFORMATION
RELATING TO OPIUM PRODUCTION SUCH AS GROWING PATTERNS OR
CHANGES, OPIUM COSTS AND AVAILABILITY, IRRIGATION METHODS,
GENERAL METHODS OF OPERATION, AND CAMPAIGN EFFECTS.

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(E) DEA MEXICO WILL ASSIGN ONE OF ITS ANALYSTS IN MEXICO
CITY TO COORDINATE, COLLATE, PROCESS, AND ANALYZE ALL
AVAILABLE DATA WHICH HAVE DIRECT OR INDIRECT BEARING ON
CAMPAIGN AND PROVIDE SAME TO THE MISSION.

(F) DEA MEXICO WILL REQUEST THAT IN-COUNTRY DEA PERSONNEL
BE PERMITTED TO VIEW OPERATIONS PERIODICALLY, AS OUTLINED
IN REFTEL A.

4. ALL IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITY WILL BE CONDUCTED BY DEA
PERSONNEL PERMANENTLY STATIONED IN MEXICO WITH THE
CONSENT OF MISSION AND THE GOM.

5. OUR PRIMARY INTEREST IS THE MAINTENANCE OF THE
COMMENDABLE PROGRESS BEING MADE IN THE CAMPAIGN WITH ITS
POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE HEROIN PROBLEM IN THE US: THE
HEROIN PURITY LEVEL HAS DECREASED FROM 6.6 PERCENT TO
5.0 PERCENT; HEROIN-RELATED DEATHS HAVE DECREASED FROM
AN ALL-TIME QUARTERLY HIGH OF 543 TO AN ALL-TIME
QUARTERLY LOW OF 127; HEROIN-RELATED INJURIES HAVE DROPPED
FROM AN ALL-TIME QUARTERLY HIGH OF 5,209 TO AN ALL-TIME
QUARTERLY LOW OF 2,508; AND THE NUMBER OF FIELDS SPRAYED

HAS INCREASED FROM 668 IN THE LATTER PART OF 1975 TO
44,278 IN 1977.

6. WE AGREE WITH EMBASSY ASSESSMENT THAT A COOPERATIVE

VERIFICATION EFFORT OF THE ERADICATION PROGRAM IS
ESSENTIAL FOR BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND ACCORDINGLY THE
MISSION SHOULD TAKE THE STEPS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AN
EFFECTIVE PROGRAM.

7. DEA STANDS READY TO DO WHATEVER IT CAN TO ASSIST
THE MISSION IN THE ONGOING PROGRAM.

8. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON THE ABOVE POINTS.
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Message Attributes

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